

RESPONSE
Examiner: JUNG, David Yiuk

Serial No. 09/859,667
Atty. Docket No.: 42336.010500

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-64 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 3, 16, 22, 23, 26, 28, 30, 36, 43, 44, 46, 48, and 53-64 have been amended to clarify the nature of Applicants' invention.

In the above-referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-21, 46-52, 54, 57, 59, 62, and 64 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pretty Good Privacy ("PGP"), as described in <http://www.trincoll.edu/depts/cpsc/cryptography/pgp.html> ("the Trinity College PGP description"). The Office Action is unclear as to which claims are rejected over PGP and admissions against prior art. In the second paragraph of page 4, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-21, 46-52, 54, 57, 59, 62, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over PGP and admissions against prior art. Yet the substantive portions of the Examiner's subsequent analysis recite rejections of claims 22-45, 53, 55-56, 58, 60-61, and 63. For the purposes of this response, it is assumed that the Examiner intended to indicate that claims 22-45, 53, 55-56, 58, 60-61, and 63 were rejected. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to amend and/or withdraw the arguments set forth herein. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections contained in the Office Action in their entirety for at least the reasons set forth in the previous Office Action. Applicants reassert that the Examiner has misconstrued elements of Applicants' pending claims, and that the Examiner has ignored other elements that distinguish the claims over the prior art. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution of the instant case, Applicants have amended Claims 1, 2, 3, 16, 22, 23, 26, 28, 30, 36, 43, 44, 46, 48, and 53-64 to further clarify Applicants' invention. Applicants' amendments having rendered the Examiner's rejections moot, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

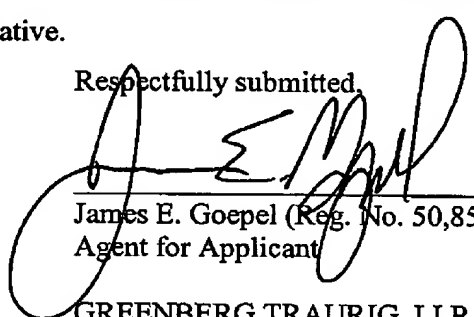
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CONCLUSION

Having responded to all objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action, it is submitted that claims 1-64 are in condition for allowance and Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. In the event that the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is courteously requested to contact applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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Filed: May 8, 2006